

REMARKS

This is in response to the Office Action mailed on June 9, 2009. Claims 1, 3-11, 13-22, 24-25, and 28-39 were pending in that action, and all claims were rejected. With the present response, claims 1, 3-11, 13-20, 22, 25, 28-31, and 33-38 are amended, claims 21, 24, and 32 are cancelled, and the remaining claims are unchanged. Consideration and allowance of all pending claims are respectfully solicited in light of the following comments.

35 USC §112 Rejections

On page 4 of the Office Action, the Examiner rejected claim 24 as failing to comply with the written description requirement. Claim 24 has been cancelled, and Applicant respectfully requests that the rejection be withdrawn.

On page 5 of the Office Action, the Examiner rejected claim 28 as being indefinite. In particular, the Examiner noted that claim 28 was dependent upon a cancelled claim. Claim 28 has been amended such that it is now dependent upon the pending claim 22. Applicant therefore respectfully contends that claim 28 is now definite, and Applicant respectfully requests that the rejection be withdrawn.

35 USC §103 Rejections

On pages 5-21 of the Office Action, the Examiner rejected all of the claims as being unpatentable under 35 USC §103. This Amendment presents new limitations and new combinations of limitations that have not been previously considered by the Examiner. Applicant respectfully contends that at least as amended that the claims are not anticipated by or obvious in view of the cited references. Applicant therefore respectfully contends that the claims are patentable. All of the claim amendments are well supported throughout the application as originally filed. Exemplary support for the claims is listed below.

The claim 1 amendment is supported for example by the former claim 7, by FIG. 4, elements 415, 416, and 417, by FIG. 7, elements 715, 716, and 717, and on page 26, lines 10-25 of the specification. The claim 3 amendment is supported for example on page 21, lines 7-13 of the specification. The claim 4 amendment is supported for example on page 21, lines 14-24 of the specification. The claim 5 amendment is supported for example on page 18, lines 2-8 of the specification. The claim 6 amendment is supported for example by FIG. 4, elements 414, 415,

416, 417, and 418, by FIG. 7, elements 712, 715, 716, and 717, and on page 26, lines 6-25 of the specification. The claim 7 amendment is supported for example on page 34, lines 12-18 of the specification. The claim 8 amendment is supported for example by the former claim 9 and on page 26, line 26 to page 27, line 19 of the specification. The claim 9 and 10 amendments are supported for example on page 26, line 26 to page 27, line 19 of the specification. The claim 11 amendment is supported for example on page 27, lines 19-30 of the specification. The claim 13 amendment is supported for example on page 22, lines 13-27 of the specification. The claim 14 amendment is supported for example on page 33, lines 9-11 of the specification. The claim 15 amendment is supported for example by the former claims 16 and 17, and on page 29, lines 5-26 of the specification. The claim 16 amendment is supported for example on page 29, line 17 of the specification. The claim 17 amendment is supported for example on page 29, lines 15-16 of the specification. The claim 18 amendment is supported for example on page 28, lines 28-30 of the specification. The claim 19 amendment is supported for example on page 29, lines 1-4 of the specification. The claim 20 amendment is supported for example on page 34, line 22 to page 35, line 6 of the specification. The claim 22 amendment is supported for example by FIG. 3, element 332, and on page 21, lines 7-13 of the specification. The claim 25 amendment is supported for example on page 20, lines 24-25 of the specification. The claim 28 amendment is supported for example on page 17, lines 9-11 of the specification. The claim 29 amendment is supported for example on page 25, line 11 to page 26, line 30, and on page 27, line 19 to page 28, line 17 of the specification, and by FIG. 4. The claim 30 and 31 amendments are supported for example on page 27, lines 26-30 of the specification. The claim 33 amendment is supported for example on page 26, lines 10-25 of the specification. The claim 34 amendment is supported for example on page 28, lines 7-28 of the specification. The claim 35 amendment is supported for example on page 28, lines 22-28 of the specification. The claim 36 amendment is supported for example on page 32, line 20 to page 33, line 6 of the specification. The claim 37 amendment is supported for example on page 2, lines 12-14 of the specification, and the claim 38 amendment is supported for example on page 23, line 14 to page 24, line 5 of the specification.

Conclusion

It is respectfully submitted that all claims are now in condition for allowance. Accordingly, consideration and allowance of all pending claims are respectfully solicited. Applicant also respectfully requests that in the event that the Examiner does not find the independent claims patentable, that the Examiner consider allowance of one or more of the dependent claims. The Director is authorized to charge any fee deficiency required by this paper or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 23-1123.

Respectfully submitted,

MICROSOFT CORPORATION,

By: /christopher l holt/
Christopher L. Holt, Reg. No. 45,844
One Microsoft Way
Redmond, WA 98052-6399
Phone: (425) 707-9382

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